

Himself and took it out of the way in His death so that we can be free from it all, free from sin. We can be forgiven, we can be reconciled to God. We can have the peace towards us from God that Jesus intended for us in our hearts. Such joy!

That is the true meaning of Christmas, God's good will towards you, to take away the emptiness that this world's goods provide and give you the joy of Jesus Christ in your heart. The angels were excited, and the shepherds became excited because God was excited telling them that His Son, the Saviour of the world had finally come. You too can have this excitement this Christmas if you will receive the Lord Jesus as your Saviour. You need to admit to Jesus your sin, in other words, that you have done "your own thing" and not the will of God in your life. But when He forgives you the joy will be wonderful, you will have found the child born who was the Son given, to be your SAVIOUR for evermore.



### Prayer for Salvation

You can pray this prayer from the heart if you know you need the Lord Jesus as your own Saviour. He will faithfully answer your prayer because He loves you.

Dear Lord Jesus

Thank you for helping me when I could not help myself. I confess to you that I have sinned and done things against the will of God. Please forgive me and cleanse me from all my sin. Please come into my heart and change me so that I can truly serve you for the rest of my life. I realise that without you I have no hope in this world but that with you I have eternal life

Lord Jesus thank you. I now belong to you and I rejoice in you as my Saviour and can now truly call you Lord. Amen

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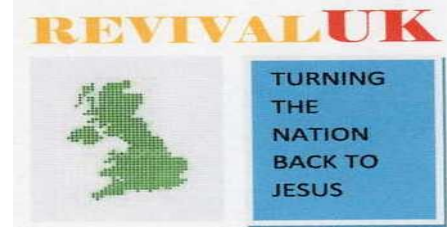
TURNING THE NATION  
BACK TO JESUS CHRIST

“THE TRUE  
MEANING OF  
CHRISTMAS”



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# THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS



It has been reported in the papers this year that Cathedrals are having to put on extra services this Christmas as more people than expected are attending Christmas Services. The reason stated is that more people are looking for the “true spiritual meaning of Christmas rather than concentrating on the commercial and indulgent type of Christmas that sadly has become so much part of our modern society.

The presents, the food and drink and the socialising leave people empty at the end of it all. There is no real long term peace and fulfillment in all these things. It is also reported that more married couples seek counselling after the extended Christmas and New Year holiday than at any other time of the year. A season that is meant to be so full of peace and joy often becomes a time of stress and anguish for many.

When the angels appeared to the shepherds on that amazing night when Jesus Christ was born, they spoke of good will towards mankind, not the often misquoted phrase, goodwill among men. So what then is the good will towards mankind. Maybe here is the true meaning of Christmas which can bring real joy and peace to many hearts. The shepherds who heard the angels rejoiced and went off to see what is was the angels had told them of and found a baby lying in a manger in a Bethlehem cowshed.

The prophet Isaiah who lived hundreds of years before Jesus was born spoke about a “child being born and a son being given”. The shepherds saw a baby, the child born, but were told that this was the Son of God who was given, a Saviour who is Christ the Lord. Nowadays so much concentration goes on to the child born, nativity scenes, plays at schools and so on but sight is usually lost of the son who is given.

God’s goodwill towards men was to give His only Son for the whole world. It was His wonderful gift of someone who could really save us from our sin and ourselves. Jesus literally means Saviour, for “He shall save His people from their sins” we read in Matthew’s gospel. Some one to deliver us, to rescue us from the needs of our lives.

The Bible strangely does not tell us to remember Jesus’ birth as so many do. It is a good excuse if we are honest for the pleasures we so much enjoy. We are told to remember Jesus’ death. Why? The reason is that the child who was born, the son who was given became the Saviour who died for the sins of the whole world. Sin is the source in every human heart that makes us does the wrong, the bad and selfish things in our lives, the things against the will of God. Above all doing our own will and going our own way in life. Jesus took all that on